

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
ROYAL ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY
OF LONDON

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ORDINARY MEETING

WEDNESDAY 5th DECEMBER, at 5.30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Confirmation of the Proceedings of the Ordinary Meeting held on 7th November, 1956.
2. Recommendations of candidates for Fellowship. First reading.
3. Recommendations of candidates for Fellowship. Second reading.
4. Announcement of election of new Fellows.
5. Additions to the Library [see p. 38].
6. Nomination of Officers and Council for 1957.
7. Admission of Fellows.
8. Papers accepted for publication in the *Transactions*.
9. Exhibits.

As already announced, the meeting will be devoted to small exhibits of special interest requiring only short explanations.

Brief notes on these exhibits, suitable for publication in these *Proceedings*, should reach the Honorary Secretary by Saturday, 1st December.

TEA will be served in the Library before the meeting.

NOTICES

Provision of refreshments after Ordinary Meetings

The Council of the Society has decided that coffee and biscuits shall be provided in the Society's rooms following Ordinary Meetings. A charge of one shilling per person will be made. Visitors will be welcomed, provided they are introduced and paid for by Fellows.

The serving of refreshments will cease and the house will be closed not later than 60 minutes after the end of the meeting. It will not be possible to keep the Library open during this time and it will therefore continue to be closed at the end of the meeting.

As the number it will be necessary to cater for must be known in advance, Fellows are asked to give prior notice of their intention to stay by signing their names on a list, which will be placed beside the Attendance Book, before 5.30 p.m.

Forthcoming Ordinary Meetings

Preliminary notice is given below of the principal papers to be read at the next two Ordinary Meetings :

16th January, 1957

Dr. C. A. Clarke and **Dr. P. M. Sheppard**.—The genetics of some mimetic forms of *Papilio dardanus* and *Papilio glaucus*.

6th February, 1957

Annual Meeting, including Presidential Address.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 7TH NOVEMBER, 1956.

Dr. W. J. HALL, C.M.G., M.C., President, in the Chair.

Present, 66 Fellows and 8 Visitors.

Before the meeting formally opened the President extended a welcome to Dr. H. C. Chiang of Minnesota and Dr. K. J. Hequist of Stockholm.

The minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 3rd October were confirmed and signed by the President.

The names of the following candidates for election were read for the first time : Dr. William F. Barr, Ph.D. ; Lt.-Col. William Bowater, R.A.M.C.(Retd.) ; Mr. Arthur Richard Gittins ; Mr. Raymond Uthoff Kaufmann ; Mr. Haikal Riyadh Ra'afat ; Dr. Pedrito Silva ; Mr. Anthony South, B.Sc. ; and Miss Pamela Jean Usher, B.Sc.

For the second time (taken as read) : Mr. Ram Autar Agarwal, B.Sc. ; Mr. Augustine Amechi ; Mr. Sidney Charles Scarsdale Brown, L.D.S. ; Mr. Amar Nath Chatteraj ; Mr. Michael Wilson Fox ; Mr. Charles Cyril Roy Goodwin ; Mr. Joseph Harold Johnson ; Miss Anne Dorothy Loubser ; Miss Olive McCartney ; Mr. Amyan Macfadyen, M.A. ; Mr. John Russell Metcalfe ; Mr. James Muspratt ; Mr. Takehiko Nakane ; Mr. James Frederick Newman ; Mr. Abdus Sattar ; Dr. David Gordon Shappirio ; Mr. Prem Dulare Srivastava ; Mr. Tiruvarur Subrahmaniyayer Sundaram ; Dr. Joseph Julius Szent-Ivany, Ph.D. ; and Mr. Christopher Wilkinson.

The Secretary read the names of the following newly elected Fellows of the Society : Mr. Awad Ahdin Ali, Imperial College of Science and Technology,

Prince Consort Road, London, S.W.7; Mrs. Ivy Doreen Classey, 22, Harlington Road East, Feltham, Middlesex; Mr. Gavin John Hitchings, The Forstal, Little Chart, Nr. Ashford, Kent; Mr. Taro Iwase, 4, Shinhana-cho, Hongo, Tokyo, Japan; Dr. K. N. Katiyar, M.Sc., Ph.D., Entomology Branch, Forest Research Institute, New Forest P.O., Dehra Dun, U.P., India; Miss Mary Kay Kraft, B.Sc., 4, 13th Avenue, Parktown North, Johannesburg, South Africa; Mr. Charles William Lamb, Cherry Trees, Woodacre Crescent, Bardsey, Leeds; Mr. Edward Alexander Mackay, 41, Westwick Gardens, London, W.14; Mr. George Millar, M.R.S.H., c/o Kuwait Oil Co., Ltd., Ahmadi, Kuwait, Persian Gulf; Dr. Edwin Richard Nye, 20, Bramley Road, London, N.14; Mr. Michael James Parr, 100 Light Oaks Road, Salford, 6, Lancs.; Mr. B. Sripathi Rao, M.A., Rubber Research Institute of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaya; Mr. M. I. Thomas, Department of Zoology, M.I. College, Trivandrum, 4, T.C. State, India; Mr. Jeremy David Weller, Woodsdale Farm, Pope Street, Godmersham, Canterbury, Kent and Mr. John Kenneth Williams, Mount Pleasant, Tehidy, Camborne, Cornwall.

Thanks were voted to donors of gifts to the Library since the last meeting.

Mr. V. Ammah-Attoh, Dr. M. M. Betts, Mr. H. S. Darling and Mr. R. A. Harrison signed the Obligation Book and were admitted Fellows of the Society.

The Honorary Secretary exhibited, on behalf of **Dr. N. E. Hickin**, living adults of *Megacyllene guttata* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) on *Lignum vitae* from the London timber yards of Mr. W. G. Marshall. The specimens had been identified by Mr. E. A. J. Duffy. The exact species of tree (from tropical America) had not yet been determined from the timber, but was not thought to be either *Guaiacum officinale* or *G. sanctum*.

Mr. R. A. Harrison exhibited subfossil puparia of *Calliphora* sp. found associated with Moa bones excavated at Martinborough in the north island of New Zealand. Geomorphological evidence puts the date of the specimens at not earlier than 9000 years B.P., and not less than 1000 years. The puparia were found within the cavities of the skulls and there is no doubt that they are contemporaneous with the skulls. The specimens were collected by Mr. Yaldwyn for the Dominion Museum, Wellington.

Mr. Dennis Leston gave a paper on shieldbug systematics, an abstract of which appeared on page 31.

In the discussion which followed, Mr. Leston said, in reply to an inquiry by Miss D. J. Jackson, that the distribution of Pentatomoids fitted in with Wegener's theory of continental drift.

Mr. Kerrich asked if a secretion was produced by female Acanthosomidae to protect their eggs from attack by parasitic Hymenoptera. Mr. Leston said that he believed that such was the case—except for the egg-guarding *Elasmucha*—but that Dr. J. G. Pendergrast had suggested the female paired ventral organs were primarily sensory rather than secretory in function.

Mr. G. G. E. Scudder enquired about the nature of the separation characters between the various groups. In reply Mr. Leston said that the whole complex could be divided into two on diploid number but that adequate characters were provided by external features enabling satisfactory keys to be constructed. Mr. Scudder also asked if *Megaritis* had been placed within an existing family, stating that on female genitalic structure it seemed to be somewhat primitive. Mr. Leston commented that it was probably a lower Pentatomoid but small size, a hard integument and shortage of material had not as yet enabled him to place it.

Dr. D. J. Lewis said that the Sudan millet bug, *Agonoscelis versicolor* (F.), was boiled by the natives and then used medicinally. Mr. Leston commented that there were a number of records of Shieldbugs being used as human food but he was not aware of their use as medicine.

Dr. W. J. LeQuesne (a visitor) enquired about the nature of the stink-gland products, suggesting that these were not necessarily modified waste substances. Mr. Leston agreed, stressing that no analyses were available of the secretions of either of the two types of stink-glands. Whilst there was little doubt that the secretions had a protective, repugnatorial function, the presence in some of the genera of sexual differences in the smell, as well as differences in the size of the gland between the sexes, suggested that communication by smell may occur.

Dr. T. R. E. Southwood enquired what climatic conditions recent Cydnidae found to be most suitable. Mr. Leston stated that shieldbugs were essentially tropical insects: to permit escape from a tropical environment a number of humidity and temperature "control" mechanisms or behavioural modifications had had to occur. In Cydninae the bulk of the temperate species were black, fossorial forms, laying their eggs in damp, concealed places. On balance the group was still largely confined to tropical or subtropical areas. Mr. Scudder stated that at least one isolated temperate Cydnid, *Thyreocoris scarabaeoides* (L.), was not unsuccessful. Mr. Leston agreed but pointed out that in Britain it had a southern distribution and was confined to warm areas of sand or chalk: that it had reached its northern limit was shown by his inability to collect it by sweeping, whereas in France such was not the case. Dr. B. P. Moore said that he had collected this bug by sweeping in Britain but agreed that this was an unusual occurrence.

E. B. BRITTON, *Honorary Secretary*.

The next meeting will be held on 16th January, 1957, at 5.30 p.m.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Presented

- [Dubinin, V. B. *Arachnida*. Tom VI. no. 7. *Analgesoidea*. Subfam. 3. *Pterolichidae*.] 8vo. Moscow & Leningrad, 1956. Fauna of U.S.S.R. (N.S.) 63. [Academy of Sciences of U.S.S.R. By exchange.]
- Snyder, T. E. Annotated, subject-heading bibliography of termites 1350 B.C. to A.D. 1954. *Smithson. misc. Coll.* 130: 305 pp. 1956. [Smithsonian Institution.]

Purchased

- Albin, Eleazar. *A Natural History of English Insects*. 4to. London, 1735.
- [Third edition.] 4to. London, 1749.
- 134 *Original drawings of larvae of British Lepidoptera*. Fol. 1712.
- Harris, Moses. *The Aurelian: or, Natural History of English insects*. Second issue with supplement. Fol. London, 1766.
- Petiver, James. *J. Petiveri Opera, historiam naturalem spectantia*. 3 vols. illust. 8vo & fol. London, 1764.

In addition, separates have been presented by the United States Department of Agriculture; l'Office National Anti-Acridien; Miss E. N. Marks; American Entomological Society; Mr. R. A. French; Dr. A. Khalifa; Colonial Termite Research Unit; Dr. J. M. Whitten; Mr. P. A. Glick; Dr. S. B. D. Agarwala; Moravského Musea v. Brně; Bee Department, Rothamsted Experimental Station; Dr. W. F. Jepson and Dr. Maciej Mroczkowski.